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BATMAN

INSIDE:



SUPERMAN



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THE PENGUIN



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INTRODUCTION

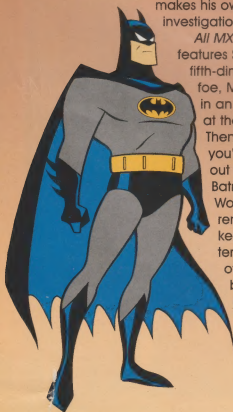
Welcome to another great issue of **I Love to Read Batman!** Make sure you don't miss out on the great **BATMAN AND RIDDLER PLAYCASE COMPETITION!** If you can answer the four simple questions based on Batman's adventures, you will have a chance to win a great toy. So, go to page 22 straight away and send off your entry NOW!

Having got that out of the way, read this month's first adventure story, *Scare Tactics!* Gotham City's citizens are terrified of their heroes, Batman and Robin! What or who has made them so scared? That's for you to find out.

In *Breakout*, that birdie criminal, the Penguin escapes from Arkham Asylum. The asylum's guards are sure they will catch him quickly. Batman is not so sure they are right, and following his detective instincts, he

makes his own investigations.

All **MX'D UP**, features Superman's fifth-dimensional foe, Mr. Mxyzptlk, in an adventure at the carnival. Then, once you've pulled out this month's Batman Workbook, remove and keep the terrific poster of Superman battling with Mr. Mxyzptlk.



REDAN

I LOVE TO READ

BATMAN™

3 SCARE TACTICS

That master of fear, the Scarecrow, has planned a money making scheme that scares Gothamites out of their wits!

8 BREAKOUT

The excitement continues in this escape story in which Batman pursues the Penguin beneath the streets of Gotham.

12 POSTER

A painted poster of Batman and Mr. Mxyzptlk for you to put up on your wall.

13 BATMAN WORKBOOK

An eight-page pull-out workbook full of puzzles and games especially for you.

22 COMPETITION

Take this opportunity to win a great game from Bluebird toys.

23 ALL MX'D UP

Clark Kent visits a carnival with Lois Lane, but the fun doesn't last for long when Mr. Mxyzptlk starts playing some tricks.

29 MIRROR MIRAGE

You'll need to put on your thinking caps for this puzzling page!

30 DYNAMIC DISPATCHES

A fun page filled with pictures sent in by you, our readers.



SCARE TACTICS

The Batmobile cut through the night as Batman and Robin raced to the scene of a crime.



Batman and Robin had him trapped...



But that didn't seem to bother him.



Suddenly, Police Commissioner Gordon and his men arrived...



...and found themselves not only facing the Scarecrow, but two hideous monsters as well.



WHAT'S
WRONG WITH
THEM?



Several terrified policemen opened fire, not realising they were mistakenly shooting at Batman and Robin.

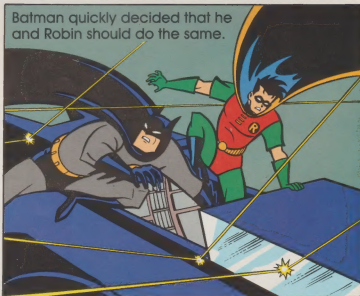


In the confusion, the Scarecrow made his escape...

HEE! HEE!
HEE!



Batman quickly decided that he and Robin should do the same.



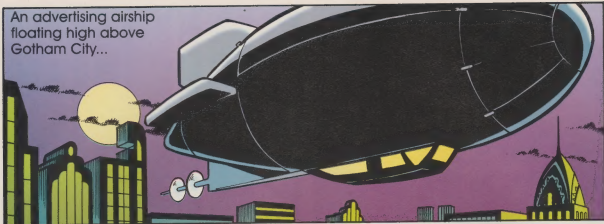
Later, back in the Batcave, Batman was puzzling over the night's events when Robin noticed his glove was wet.



Accessing the Batcomputer, Batman discovered the substance on Robin's glove was a version of the Scarecrow's fear stimulant.



An advertising airship floating high above Gotham City...



...was also the Scarecrow's secret lab, where he was preparing more of his fear potion.

THE LAST BATCH WILL BE WEARING OFF SOON. I MUST MAKE SOME MORE.



Scarecrow had created the potion especially to make people afraid of Batman and Robin. With Gotham City terrified by its heroes, he could commit his crimes without being disturbed...



...or so he thought.

THERE'S NOWHERE TO RUN THIS TIME, SCARECROW!

KRASH!!



In his hurry to escape, the Scarecrow spilt the fear potion on himself...





THE PENGUIN'S BREAKOUT

"Assssrrshk!" shrieked the Penguin as he tumbled down the metal staircase. Several Arkham Asylum guards, alerted by the noise of the heavy inmate's fall, came running. They found the villain in a heap at the bottom of the stairs, clutching one knee. Between gasps of pain, the Penguin threatened to sue Gotham City for every last cent. That was just hot air - the fall had been entirely accidental - but the scheming mind of Batman's wickedly cunning foe was already plotting how he could turn the situation to his advantage. To the Penguin, even personal injuries had their uses.

It took four guards to carry the heavy inmate to the doctor in the Asylum's infirmary. Mopping their brows, two guards returned to their duties, leaving their colleagues to watch the Penguin. The doctor confirmed that the Penguin had torn ligaments in his knee.

Still wincing with pain, the villain asked for help to get down from the examination table. The Penguin placed an arm over each guard's shoulders to support him and instantly made his move. His powerful arms slammed down and forward, banging the guards' heads together. As they slumped in a daze, the Penguin quickly grabbed their keys and guns.

"You, you miserable quack!" the Penguin snapped at the doctor. "Get me some crutches!"



Looking at the guns pointing at him, the doctor reluctantly handed a pair over, saying, "You can't escape. Even if you make it outside, Penguin, you won't get two miles on those crutches."

"I'll make it out of this cage all right!" retorted the villain. "The staff block is right next door. The place is empty at this time and it isn't as though I'm locked out," he smirked, rattling the keys. Hobbling towards the door, he

laughed, "I can get these awful prison vestments off my back when I collect my proper attire from the store-room in there. Then I'll just hop out through the unguarded staff gate and I'll be free..." Checking that the corridor outside was clear, he limped out the door. "Free as a bird!" he cackled, closing and locking the door behind him.

Minutes after the Dark Knight had been informed of the Penguin's escape, the Batmobile screeched to a halt outside Arkham Asylum. The doctor and the two guards had eventually broken down the surgery door to raise the alarm. Since then, Phelps, the head guard, had led the search for the escaped inmate.

"You can leave this one to us," he told Batman, showing him the staff gate which had been found open. "You see, he's definitely on foot. No vehicles in the area have gone missing. No one was on the road at the time, so there was no outside help. He's hardly the fittest felon we've had in here, and with that injury, he won't get far."

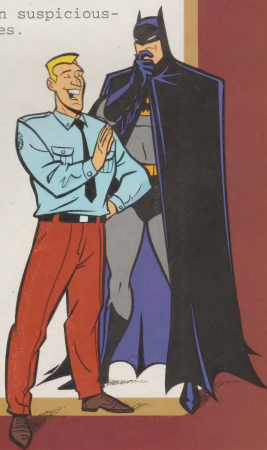
Sensing Batman was unconvinced, Phelps continued. "And he's only got one crutch. He dropped one about fifteen yards outside the staff gate."

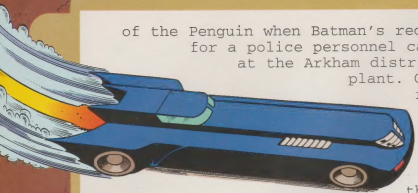
"He didn't pick it up?" asked Batman suspiciously, glancing around the staff offices.

Phelps was confident he knew why. "My theory is he had too much to carry. See, his fancy clothes are missing from the store-room. But we couldn't find his Asylum uniform. I assume he's carrying his swanky duds because he didn't have time to change into them."

"It's dangerous to assume anything with the Penguin," said Batman, charging across to the Batmobile. The powerful engine roared to life and the shadow-black vehicle sped away.

At Police Headquarters, Commissioner Gordon was waiting anxiously for news





of the Penguin when Batman's request came through for a police personnel carrier to meet him at the Arkham district sewer control plant. Gordon granted the request. He had learned to trust the Dark Knight's instincts - even if he didn't always understand them.

"It's his clothes," explained Batman over the radio as the Batmobile hurtled through the night. "He interrupted his escape to collect them." Gordon nodded as he listened, recalling that the villain, who thought himself an aristocrat, always liked to look smart.

"Yet the Penguin's asylum uniform couldn't be found either," Batman continued, expertly sliding the Batmobile around a tight bend in the road. "Since he didn't get rid of them, he must have had a use for them. Maybe he put them back on over his good clothes to protect them if his real escape route was going to be grimy. In the staff block, I saw a maintenance hatch entrance to the asylum's underground network of drains and pipes. I think the Penguin used it."

"From there he could get into the sewer system!" declared Gordon, grasping Batman's reasoning. "By making it look like he'd gone through the staff gate by unlocking it - and hurling out one of the crutches - he threw his pursuers right off his track."

Gordon paused, expecting a response from Batman. None came. The Batmobile had reached the sewer plant and its cockpit was empty.

In the dark, damp storm-water over-flow chamber, the Penguin struggled up through a hatchway in the floor. He was hot and tired, and his knee burned with pain. He peeled off his grubby asylum uniform, adjusted the tailcoat he wore beneath, and placed his top hat on his head. The smile on his face grew wider and wider. Then he heard a noise and the smile disappeared. It was a noise he knew well and one he detested. It was the noise of Batman's grappling gun firing a line.

The Penguin pulled one of the guards' guns from a

pocket, his eyes probing the murky surroundings. There was a movement to his left. Yanking the gun around, he peppered the shadows with bullets. The Penguin had fired four times when Batman's feet thumped into his back. The gun and villain went sprawling beneath the arc of the Dark Knight's swing. Batman landed nearby.

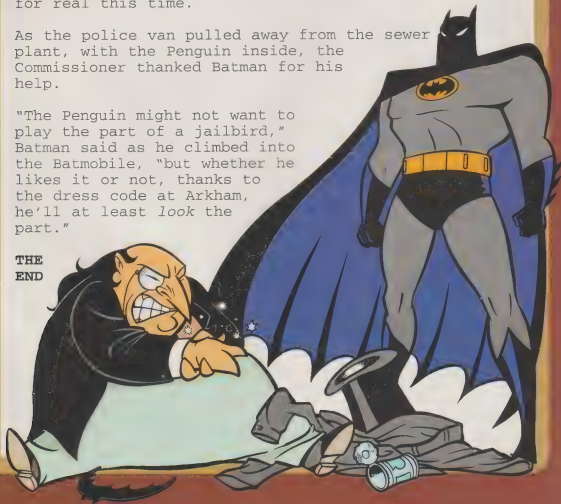
Looking defeated, the Penguin sank back against a wall. "Congratulations, Bats," he spluttered weakly. "You second-guessed me. I take my hat off to you." The villain lifted his topper, then he laid it down over one hand. Within the hat, his hand closed around the cold metal of the second stolen gun. For a split-second the Penguin believed he had caught Batman unaware. But Batman's own hand was busy - flinging a Batarang that sliced through the air and hit the Penguin's wrist hard. The gun and top hat jerked out of his grasp and spiralled away as Batman somersaulted forwards, landing poised to attack again.

"Enough!" shrieked the Penguin, surrendering for real this time.

As the police van pulled away from the sewer plant, with the Penguin inside, the Commissioner thanked Batman for his help.

"The Penguin might not want to play the part of a jailbird," Batman said as he climbed into the Batmobile, "but whether he likes it or not, thanks to the dress code at Arkham, he'll at least look the part."

THE
END



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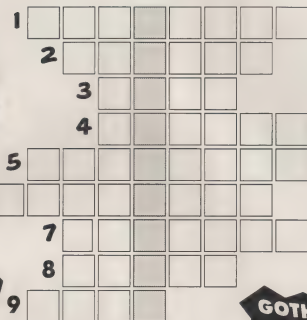


BATMAN™

WORKBOOK

WHO'S HIDDEN?

Someone's name is hiding in the grey squares on this grid. Answer the clues correctly to find out who it is.



GOTHAM CITY

1. Large, frightening beasts.
2. To get away.
3. Building where money is kept.
4. Gotham City's asylum.
5. Name on Scarecrow's airship.
6. Used in scientific experiments.
7. A large, power-driven balloon.
8. It is worn on your hand.
9. The team of people that mans a plane or ship.

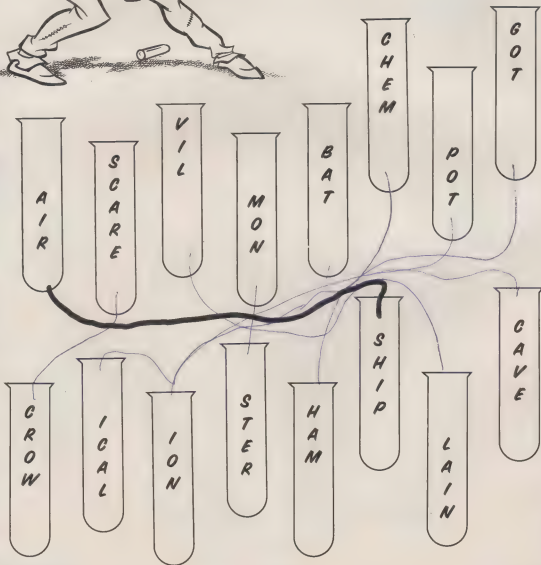


MIX UP IN THE LAB



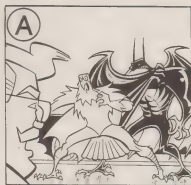
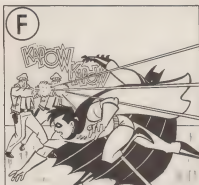
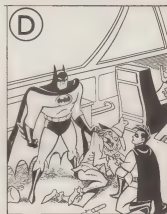
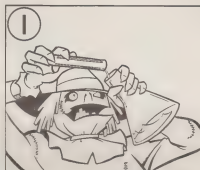
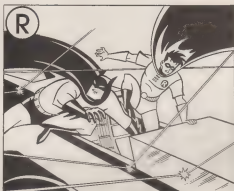
All the words in this quiz come from the story, *Scare Tactics*. The first part of each word is in one of the test tubes on the top row and the second part is in one of the test tubes on the bottom row.

See if you can put the two parts of each word together. One has been done for you already.



ALL MIXED UP

These pictures have been taken from this month's comic strip story. Put them in the **correct order (1-6)** and write the letter from each picture in the boxes below to find a word used in the story.



1	2	3	4	5	6

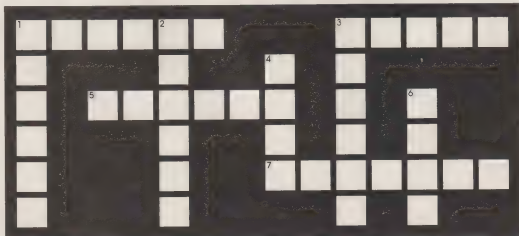
BREAKOUT CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. They watch over the inmates at Arkham Asylum.
3. An underground drain.
5. The Penguin tried to do this but was caught.
7. Where doctors see their patients.

DOWN

1. The Police Commissioner in Gotham City.
2. A person who sees people when they are ill.
3. The Penguin fell down them.
4. They open and close locks.
6. Joint in the leg.



WHO WOULD WEAR IT?

Not only is the Penguin fussy about his clothes, but he also takes an interest in what other people wear. This quiz has been specially designed for the Penguin. See if you can solve it too. From the list below, who do you think would normally wear each item of clothing?

Write the number of each answer in the boxes below.



1 KILT



2 TUTU



3 KIMONO



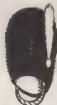
4 SARI



5 ARMOUR



6 WADERS



7 BUSBY



8 STETSON



9 CROWN



10 TURBAN



SOLDIER

7

BALLERINA

2

COWBOY

8

SIKH

10

FISHERMAN

6

JAPANESE GIRL

3

KNIGHT

5

QUEEN

9

SCOTSMAN

1

INDIAN LADY

4

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR

That mischievous Mr. Mxyzptlk has taken some words out of the fairground attractions below. To help you put them back, some clues have been written in the box for you.



1. TAKE A CHAIR TO THE AIR.
2. SOMETHING TO REFLECT ON.
3. TAKE A SHOT.
4. THIS RIDE HAS ITS UPS AND DOWNS.
5. CIRCULAR TOUR.
6. SEE IF YOU CAN DODGE 'EM.
7. A WAIL ON A RAIL.
8. A LONG SLIDE.

1. FERRIS _ _ _ _ _
2. HALL OF _ _ _ _ _
3. _ _ _ _ _ RANGE
4. BIG _ _ _ _ _
5. MERRY GO _ _ _ _ _
6. BUMPER _ _ _ _ _
7. GHOST _ _ _ _ _
8. HELTER _ _ _ _ _

DOT TO DOT

Superman is fighting with a monster of an opponent from the story,
All Mx'd Up. Join the dots to find out who it is.





ANSWERS



WHO'S HIDDEN?

1 MONSTERS
2 ESCAPE
3 BANK
4 ARKHAM
5 COZEDOZE
6 CHEMICALS
7 AIRSHIP
8 GLOVE
9 CREW

MIXED UP IN THE LAB

AIR+SHIP = **AIRSHIP**
SCARE+CROW = **SCARECROW**
VIL+LAIN = **VILLAIN**
MON+STER = **MONSTER**
BAT+CAVE = **BATCAVE**
CHEM+ICAL = **CHEMICAL**
POT+ION = **POTION**
GOT+HAM = **GOTHAM**



ALL MIXED UP
The word is **AFRAID**

BREAKOUT CROSSWORD

G	U	A	R	D	S	S	E	W	E	R
O			O			K	T			
R	E	S	C	A	P	E	A	K		
D			T			Y	I	N		
O			O			S	U	R	G	E
N			R			S	E			

WHO WOULD WEAR IT?

SOLDIER = 7 - BUSBY
BALLERINA = 2 - TUTU
COWBOY = 8 - STETSON
SIKH = 10 - TURBAN
FISHERMAN = 6 - WADERS
JAPANESE GIRL = 3 - KIMONO
KNIGHT = 5 - ARMOUR
QUEEN = 9 - CROWN
SCOTSMAN = 1 - KILT
INDIAN LADY = 4 - SARI

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR

1. FERRIS **WHEEL**
2. HALL OF **MIRRORS**
3. **RIFLE** RANGE
4. **BIG** DIPPER
5. **MERRY** GO ROUND
6. BUMPER **CARS**
7. **GHOST** TRAIN
8. **HELT**ER SKELTER





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Art: Kevin Allieri; John Calmette



COMPETITION

WIN

A BATMAN OR RIDDLER PLAYCASE

Batman and the Riddler star in their own **MICRO PLAYCASES** from Bluebird Toys. Each **BATMAN PLAYCASE** features a Batman and a Two-Face figure, along with a Batmobile and pursuit vehicle. Push the golden button and the Batmobile shoots out the side. Villains beware! There's a lot of action and adventure in the **RIDDLER'S PLAYCASE** too! It features Batman and Riddler figures, a rocket launcher and a Batplane.



Usual price £7.99.

**WE HAVE 25 OF EACH FOR
50 LUCKY WINNERS!**

For a chance to win one of these great toys, all you have to do, is answer the four questions below. Then put your answers on a postcard, along with your name and address, and send it, by 24th June 1996, to:

Playcase Competition

I Love to Read Batman
The Redan Company
139 King Street
London W6 9JG

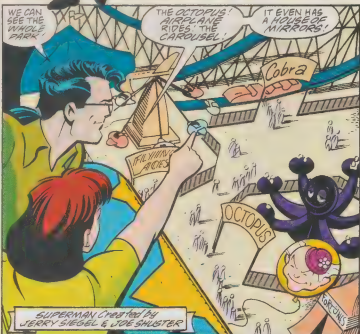
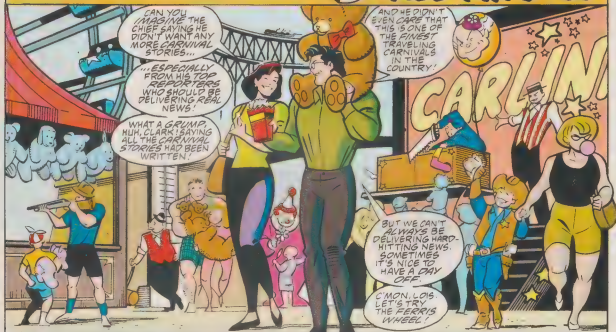
The first 50 correct answers chosen from the bag of entries will be the winners.

1. What is **Batman's** real name?
2. What is the **Riddler's** real name?
2. What is **Robin's** real name?
4. What is the **Penguin's** real name?

Rules: No employees or their relatives of The Redan Co., DC Comics, Peter Noble or Bluebird Toys may enter this competition. The editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

SOLE SURVIVOR OF THE DOOMED PLANET KRYPTON, CLARK KENT GREW UP TO DISCOVER THAT HE POSSESSED POWERS AND ABILITIES FAR BEYOND THOSE OF MORTAL MEN. NOW HE USES THOSE POWERS TO FIGHT A NEVER-ENDING BATTLE FOR TRUTH, JUSTICE, AND THE GOOD OF ALL HUMANITY AS THE EARTH'S GREATEST HERO...

SUPERMANTM IN ALL MIX'D UP



SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER

LOUISE SIMMONS
WRITER

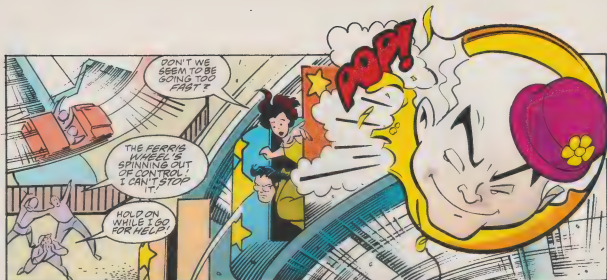
MIKE PARDECK
PENCILER

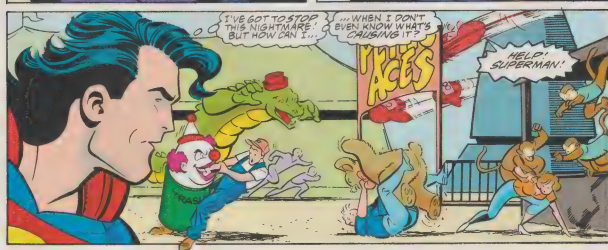
RICK BURDETTE
INKER

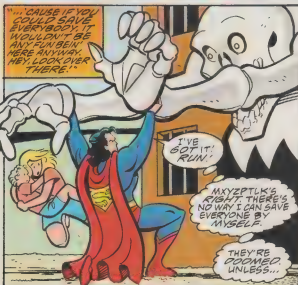
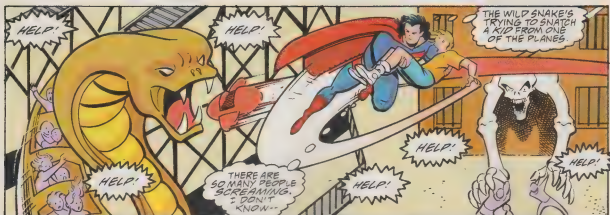
ALBERT DE GUIN
LETTERER

GLENN WINTHROP
COLORIST

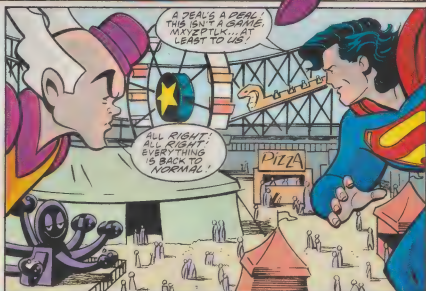
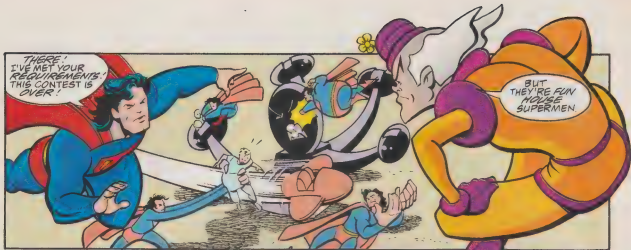
CHARLES KUBARKIN
EDITOR





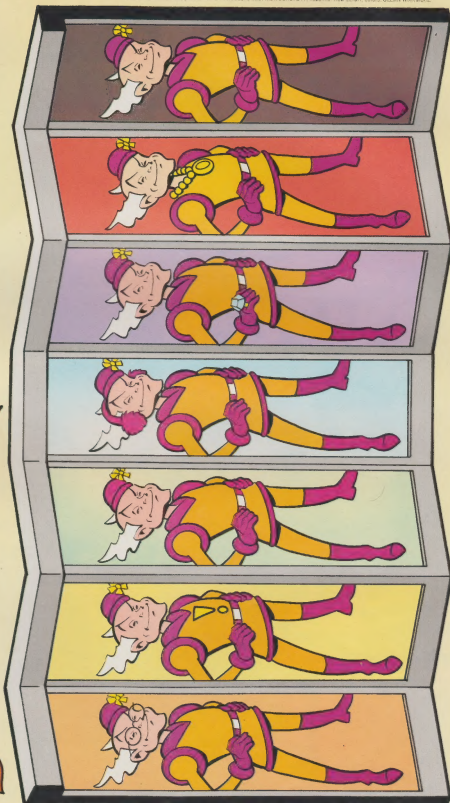






MISTER MXYZPTLK'S MIRROR RACE

Superman's fifth-dimensional foe, Mr. Mxyzptlk, is back to terrorise Metropolis and the Man of Steel! The only way to get rid of him this time is to pick out the real Mxyzptlk from the different images below. There are two Mxyzptlks who look alike in the coloured mirrors. To uncover the *true* Mxyzptlk, write down in the spaces below what makes each of the others different. Unscramble the first letter of each word to learn the colour of the mirror the real imp is hiding in! You can check your answers on the left side of the page.



Answers: Glasses, Exclamation point, Emeralds, Ring, Necktie. The real Mr. Mxyzptlk is in the green mirror.

Puzzle: RANDI HACKER; pencils: MIKE PAROSBECK; ink: RICK BURCHETT; headline: ROB LEIGH; colors: GLENN WHITMORE

DYNAMIC DISPATCHES

HERE WE ARE AGAIN WITH MORE LETTERS YOU'VE SENT US. SORRY WE CAN'T FIT IN ALL YOUR MAIL BUT KEEP WRITING, DRAWING AND TAKING PHOTOS AND WE WILL KEEP PRINTING AS MANY AS WE CAN!

BILLY & GEORGE HUGHES
WIMBORNE



BY JOHN BAKER
PORT TALBOT



BY JOSEPH VENABLES
BIRMINGHAM



Dear I Love to Read Batman,

I think your comics are great. My favourite DC super hero is Superman because of his power and I'd like to see more of him in the comic. I have 5 Batman figures and I act out your stories with them. The best story was McGuffin's Disk in issue 8.

From Richard Marsh
Aylesbury

You should love this issue too as it has a great Superman story. And I'll let you in on a secret, Richard. There will be another Superman story in issue 14 so hang on in there!

The Editor



BY DEAN WILLIAMS
LONDON



ALEXANDER SHOOK
FRANCE



SIMON ROSE
BIRMINGHAM



BY TOM SEVILLE
SHEFFIELD

Dear I Love to Read Batman,

I've enjoyed every issue of I Love to Read Batman but 5 was the best with the Penguin and the Flash. I liked 2 as well with Superman and I'm looking forward to the next issue.

from Sam Digby
Bradford

It's great to hear from such dedicated readers, Sam.
Keep it up!

The Editor

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR LETTER,
JOKE, PICTURE OR PHOTOGRAPH
PRINTED IN I LOVE TO READ BATMAN,
SEND IT TO:

THE EDITOR
C/O DYNAMIC DISPATCHES
I LOVE TO READ BATMAN
139 KING STREET
LONDON W6 9JG

SORRY WE CANNOT WRITE BACK TO YOU
INDIVIDUALLY BUT WE WILL PRINT AS MANY OF
YOUR LETTERS AS WE CAN. PLEASE REMEMBER TO
INCLUDE YOUR NAME, AGE, ADDRESS AND **SAE** IF
YOU WANT YOUR **PHOTOS** RETURNED.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE...

Harley Quinn goes on a shopping spree in Gotham City's joke stores. Using her unique shopping style, she upsets one of the store owners who pursues her. This leads him into a dangerous situation. Find out what happens to him in *The Man Who Has Everything*.



And, when **Bruce Wayne** attends what he thinks is going to be a boring high society party, an uninvited guest brings some excitement to the evening. In *A Penguin Scorned*, you'll learn what confusion follows!

Some freak, bad weather breaks out in Keystone City and **the Flash** goes to find out where it's coming from. In doing so, he comes up against one of his old enemies. Will the sun finally come out at the end of *Weather Terror*? Find out when you get next month's issue!



AND LOOK OUT ALSO FOR A SPECIAL PAGE FULL OF THE PENGUIN'S FAVOURITE JOKES AND PUNS. AND, AS ALWAYS, YOU CAN LOOK FORWARD TO QUIZZING YOUR BRAINS WITH THE BATMAN WORKBOOK!

SUPERMAN



**CHAD NUGENT
DOVERCOURT**

**BY NATHAN HILL
LEIGH**



BATMAN



**BY CHRISTOPHER STRATTON
ATLESFORD**

**THE
RIDDLER**

ROBIN

BATMAN

CATWOMAN



**RICHARD & SIMON GADDINGS, JASON &
GABRIELLE HIBBERT — BARNESLEY**

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

Can you spot the 8 differences between these two pictures of Batman battling with the Penguin ?



Answers: 1. Penguin's top hat is missing, 2. Penguin's coat collar is missing, 3. Penguin's heel is black, 4. The bird's eye is missing, 5. Batman's cape is black at the top, 6. Batman's right boot is missing, 7. Batman's belt has disappeared and 8. The building beneath Batman is thinner.